

AWOL

Two old men escape from a care home & go to a metal festival



ROB GEE.CO.UK

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Two old men escape from a care home & go to a metal festival

Written by

Rob Gee

Directed by

Ryan Gladstone

Featuring

**Rob Gee &
Stuart Tavendale**

Sound design by

**Rob Gee &
Jon Paterson**

Lighting Design by

Steve Escott



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AWOL is a feel-good adventure caper about discovering you still have plenty to offer. It's a celebration of taking risks and the joy of unexpected surprises.

Cyril doesn't like old people, which is a shame because he is one. When he learns his estranged granddaughter, Lily, has her big break with her thrash metal band, Abscess, he and his friend Neville are determined to show up and support her. Neither of them will ever be the same again.

Comedian, poet and former mental health nurse Rob Gee wrote the show after reading a news item from Germany: "It turned out not to be true, but it inspired me to write an uplifting chase story with a positive message about ageing. It's also a love letter to metalheads!"



Rob has performed over a hundred fringe festivals across the world and won over twenty awards for his solo shows. Fringe hits include *Fruitcake* ("This play has everything" Canadian Broadcasting Corporation ★★★★★) and *Forget Me Not: The Alzheimer's Whodunnit* ("Hilarious and heartbreaking" Victoria Times ★★★★★).



Stuart Tavendale trained at The School of the Arts in Northampton. He most recently appeared in New Old Friends production *A Christmas Getaway*, a national tour of *Sense and Sensibility* as Edward Ferrars and as George Bailey in *It's a Wonderful Life*. Past credits include *The 39 Steps*, Netflix's *Luther* and the BBC'S *Years and Years*.

Ryan Gladstone is artistic director of Monster Theatre and creator of numerous fringe hits, including *Til Death and Juliet: A Revenge Comedy*. ("A natural comedian" Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.) He lives in Vancouver.

Rob said, "I wasn't expecting working with Stuart and Ryan to be this much fun. If we'd been at school, they'd never have allowed us to sit together."

Click here for photos:
<https://bit.ly/awolpics>

Click here to watch the trailer:
<https://youtu.be/NLQn33SEgyQ>

Click here for web page:
<https://bit.ly/3ZSJ8Pp>



AWOL Reviews

“Rob Gee and Jon Paterson are comic gold in this show, which is full of send-ups about both elder care facilities and metal music... they bring genuine warmth to the satire, making it a pleasure to watch from start to finish.”

**Edmonton Journal,
Alberta ★★★★★**

“Very smart and funny... AWOL delivers on its premise with clever writing and eccentric performances, including jokes that will delight elders and those familiar with hard rock.”

**Post Horn,
Alberta**

“Hilarious... a cinch to be a fringe hit!”

Winnipeg Free Press

“Screamingly funny, with just the right seasoning of compassion and dramatic tension... I loved the script... we get to know and love the two men in their quest to escape not just their restrictive, humdrum home, but their loneliness and fears for the future... the performances, as one would expect from these two, are great.”

UMFM Manitoba

“A very personable and able duo... Rob Gee and Jon Paterson play Neville and Cyril in this entertaining comic performance of two elderly gentlemen trying to have one last adventure. Also nicely woven in are some rhyming couplets in the dialogue.”

**Jenny Revue,
Winnipeg**





Audience Profile

- Fans of metal and rock music
- Older people, carers' groups, people interested in issues around ageing
- People interested in theatre and comedy
- People interested in storytelling and creative writing
- Professionals in health and social care

Contains strong language, drug references. Recommended age 16+

Technical Information

- Running Time: 75 minutes plus interval (60 minute version also available)
- Dressing Room: Space for two people
- Get in: 3 hours. Get out: 45 min
- Sound and screen: 30 cues on QLab
- Lighting: 19 cues
- We can provide lighting, screen, PA and technician

Associated Workshops

- Creative Writing
- Writing Comedy
- Performance/Slam Poetry
- Comedy/Improvisation
- Mental Health Awareness for Artists

Costs vary depending on fee for performance
Post-show discussion/Q and A - FREE

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